

The New Jersey Historical Commission and the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission

Presents

South Asian American Digital Archive

April 18, 2015 ● 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Celebrating New Jersey's ethnic diversity, the New Jersey Historical Commission is pleased to partner with the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission to bring the South Asian American Digital Archive to New Jersey for the first time.

SAADA is a digital community collection of over 2,000 items that preserves the heritage of South Asian Americans who trace their heritage to: Bangladesh; Bhutan; India; Maldives; Nepal; Pakistan; Sri Lanka; and the many South Asian diaspora communities across the globe. SAADA strives to create a more inclusive society by giving voice to South Asian Americans through documenting, preserving, and sharing stories that represent their unique and diverse experiences.

In Michelle Caswell's article in volume 36 of *The Public Historian*, "Seeing Yourself in History: Community Archives and the Fight Against Symbolic Annihilation," she considers what it means for a culture of people to be left out of the history textbooks. The article explores the origin of community-based archives tracing them back to political and social movements of the 1960s and 1970s. Grass-roots efforts to establish community archives enable groups that may be less represented in mainstream history to construct an identity and preserve their history.

SAADA's envisions American and world histories that fully acknowledge the importance of immigrants and ethnic communities in the past, strengthen such communities in the present, and inspire discussion about their role in the future.

www.saadigitalarchive.org
[Register](#)

Saturday, April 18, 2015
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

East Jersey Olde Towne Village
Johnson Park
1050 River Road
Piscataway NJ 08054
[Directions](#)